

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1 - 18 (Cancelled).

19. (Currently Amended) A method for reducing undesirable effects the risk for developing cancer inherent in associated with hormone replacement therapy (HRT) while simultaneously providing positive effects of HRT, comprising administering to a woman in need thereof, a the-unit dosage form composition once daily,
said unit dosage form composition comprising having as active ingredients only at least one phytoestrogen and at least one carotenoid, wherein:

- a. the phytoestrogen is in a physiologically effective amount of at least one phytoestrogen;
and
- b. at least one carotenoid selected from the group consisting of zeta-carotene, phytoene, phytofluene, lutein, zeaxanthin, and atazantine,
wherein said carotenoid is substantially devoid of provitamin A activity and is in an amount of about 2 mg, or an amount sufficient to cause effective

serum concentrations of said carotenoid of up to
about 1.5 microM, and
~~c. wherein said composition is substantially free of
any other active component.~~

20 - 22 (Cancelled).

23. **(New)** The method according to claim 19 wherein
the at least one carotenoid is selected from the group
consisting of zeta-carotene, phytoene, phytofluene, lutein,
zeaxanthin, and atazantine.

24. **(New)** The method according to claim 19 wherein
the at least one carotenoid comprises a mixture of lycopene
and phytoene.

25. **(New)** The method according to claim 19 wherein
the at least one carotenoid comprises a mixture of lycopene
and phytofluene.

26. **(New)** The method according to claim 19 wherein
the at least one carotenoid comprises a mixture of lycopene,
phytoene and phytofluene.